

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 4 of the English language translation of the specification, please amend the first heading of the specification to appear as follows:

Description Technical Field

On page 4 of the English Language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to add a new heading within the original paragraph to appear as follows:

The invention relates to a differential drive with a rotatably arranged differential carrier in which a multi-plate coupling is inserted so as to be effective between the differential carrier and a sideshaft gear.

Background

Such multi-plate couplings are used in lockable differential drives wherein, by actuating the multi-plate coupling, there is built up a locking moment between the differential carrier and one of the sideshaft gears and thus, also indirectly, between the sideshaft gears, so that a torque introduced into the differential carrier is effectively built up at both sideshafts gears even in those cases where there is no counter moment at one of the sideshaft gears. Differential drives of said type are used in motor vehicles in the form of axle differentials between the driving wheels of a driving axle or as central differentials between two driving axles. In the case of prior art differential carriers, the space needed for the multi-plate coupling requires a very deep carrier part which is difficult to machine.

On page 4 of the English language translation of the specification, please add a heading between the first and second full paragraphs of the specification to appear as follows:

Summary Of The Invention

On page 4 of the English Language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

~~It is therefore the~~ The object of the present invention ~~to propose~~ provides an improved differential drive whose differential carrier does not feature the existing disadvantages and which has advantageous effects.

On page 5 of the English Language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

~~The objective is achieved in that~~ In particular, the differential carrier comprises a dish-shaped carrier part in which there are received sideshaft gears and differential gears, and ~~that~~ the differential carrier comprises a dish-shaped cover attached thereto which receives the plates of the multi-plate coupling. This solution achieves the required axial depth in the cover of the differential carrier, which depth is needed for the plate package of the multi-plate coupling, so that the carrier part is axially shorter and thus stiffer, while, at the same time, the cover, due to its dish shape, can take over additional functions. The dish shape of the carrier part and cover means that each is provided with a base and a casing and, for inter-connection purposes, flange portions can be provided at the aperture end. The flange portions at the two carrier parts required for fixing a driving ring gear are now positioned more centrally with reference to the longitudinal extension of the parts, so that, with reference to the ~~bearing means~~ bearings of the differential carrier, the introduction of power is more advantageous.

On page 5 and continuing on page 6 of the English Language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

According to a ~~preferred~~ one embodiment of the invention, ~~it is proposed that~~, in the sense of rotation, the outer plates of the multi-plate coupling are form-fittingly held in the cover and ~~that~~, in the sense of rotation, the inner plates of the multi-plate coupling are form-fittingly held on a hub connected to a sideshaft gear. This means that there is no need for any intermediate carriers or the like for the multi-plate coupling and that it is possible to pre-assemble the multi-plate coupling in the cover with the inserted coupling hub and side gear, and, finally, the carrier part ~~has to~~ can be placed on to said pre-assembled unit in which the other sideshaft gear and the differential gears can be securely held by the bearing journal for the differential gears. The assembly procedure for the entire differential carrier is thus substantially simplified.

On page 6 of the English Language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Furthermore, according to a ~~preferred~~ another embodiment, ~~it is proposed that~~ on the outside of the cover, there is arranged a sleeve which axially supports an actuator for the locking coupling; the actuator can also be radially supported on the sleeve, provided it is not supported in a contact-free way relative to the sleeve in the differential housing.

On page 6 of the English language translation of the specification, please add a heading between the second and third full paragraphs to appear as follows:

Brief Description Of The Drawings

On page 6 of the English Language translation of the specification, please amend the fourth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Figure 1 shows an inventive differential carrier in a ~~3-D~~ perspective view.

On page 6 of the English Language translation of the specification, please amend the sixth full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Figure 3 shows ~~the~~ a cover of the differential carrier according to ~~Figure 2~~ an embodiment of the invention in a longitudinal section.

On page 7 of the English Language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Figure 4 shows the cover in a cross-section according to the sectional line 4-4 in *Figure 3*.

On page 7 of the English language translation of the specification, please add a heading between the first and second full paragraphs to appear as follows:

Detailed Description

On page 8 and continuing on page 9 of the English Language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

In Figure 2, any details identical to those shown in Figure 1 have been given the same reference numbers. To that extent, reference is made to the description of same. As far as details are concerned, it can be seen that into the carrier part 12 there have been inserted journals 25 which intersect one another and on which there are supported differential gears 26, 27. The differential gears 26, 27 engage sideshaft gears 28, 29. A first sideshaft gear 28 is slidingly supported in the carrier part 12, whereas a second sideshaft gear 29 is guided substantially ~~self-centeringly~~ self-centeringly between the differential gears 26, 27. The latter sideshaft gear 29 is produced so as to be integral with a coupling hub 30 and carries the inner plates of the plate package 23. The outer plates of the plate package 23 are form-fittingly held in the cover 14 which is shown in section in the region of the blades 24 and the apertures 23. Between the cover 14 and the hub 30 a supporting disc 39 can be identified. The actuator 31 is shown to comprise further details in addition to the rotatably drivable setting disc 32, the pressure disc 34 being held so as to be rotationally fast and the supporting disc 37 being axially secured by the securing ring 38; said further details being an axial bearing 41 between the setting disc 32 and the supporting disc 37, a radial bearing 42 via which the setting disc 32 is supported on a sleeve 51 and balls 43 running in pairs of ball grooves in the discs 32, 34. A plurality of balls 43 is circumferentially distributed in a cage 44 and held at identical distances. As is known the depth of the ball grooves (not individually identified) in the opposing surfaces of the discs varies around the circumference, so that, when the setting disc 32 is rotated relative to the pressure disc 34, the balls run from the deeper groove regions into the shallower groove regions. Thereby, the pressure disc 34 held so as to be non-rotatable, pushes itself axially away from the setting disc 32. Via a further axial needle bearing 45 and a first pressure plate 46, the inner pressure disc 48 is pressure-loaded and axially displaced by journals 47 which axially pass through the cover 14. Said inner pressure disc 48 pushes together the plate package 23 which is supported on an annular face 49 of the carrier part 12. When the setting disc 32 is returned, the pressure plate 46 is pushed back via a plate spring 50, so that the load is removed from the plate package 23. By closing the plate package, there is built up a locking moment between the sideshaft gears 28, 29.

On page 9 of the English Language translation of the specification, please amend the first full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

Figure 3 shows the cover according to Figure 2 in a slightly modified form as a detail. Any details identical those shown in Figure 2 have been given the same reference numbers. Inside the cover 14, there are circumferentially distributed longitudinal grooves 52 which can be engaged in a form-fitting way by projections provided at the outer plates of the plate package 23. Inside the sleeve 17 it is possible to identify a lubricating groove 53. It can be seen more easily that the blades 24 are associated with the apertures 22.

On page 9 and continuing on page 10 of the English Language translation of the specification, please amend the second full paragraph of the specification to appear as follows:

In Figure 4, any details identical to those shown in Figures 2 and 3 have been given the same reference numbers. The cover 14 is provided with longitudinal grooves 52 to allow a form-fitting and positive engagement of the outer plates of the plate package 23, and with axial through-holes 54 into which the above-mentioned journals 47 are inserted. It is also possible to see in detail the shape and functioning of the blades 24 in cooperation with the apertures 22 which assumes a clockwise movement of the cover 14. In addition to the blades, it is possible to see cooling ribs 40 which at the same time reinforce the cover 14.